

10 JUL 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

SUBJECT : Record of CIA Operations, Department of State Files

1. Randy Higgs recently asked Deputy Under-Secretary for Administration Henderson to determine the official status of documents which are in Higgs' files and which concern CIA operations. His request to Mr. Henderson was in line with our several conversations about the undesirability of having these revelatory documents considered to be records of the Department of State.

2. Mr. Henderson replied that documents in Higgs' file fall into two categories:

- a. Memoranda and similar documents which are furnished by CIA on an informal basis are not part of the files of the Department of State, Mr. Henderson ruled. Therefore they "are not subject to publication, access by other public officials except as you (Higgs) or higher authority so authorize, storage or disposition by the Department."
- b. Memoranda and similar documents prepared in Higgs' office are a part of the official records of the Department of State. "These files may be retained in your (Higgs') custody and will not be considered as available for publication, access, storage or other disposition except as authorized by the Under Secretary."

3. Mr. Higgs has suggested very informally that we protect CIA's security by considering that all exchange memoranda are prepared in CIA, whether or not any are in fact prepared by Higgs. This can be done by a rather simple expedient:

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Initials ?

Memo's to Higgs ?

Thus, his memoranda will appear to be internal CIA papers and

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SECRET

- 2 -

papers and will avoid falling within the category "official records of the Department of State" as in paragraph 2b above and will not be subject to "disposition . . . as authorized by the Under Secretary."

4. Higgs also has suggested that all documents furnished him by CIA bear a stamp with some such wording as "Property of CIA: Please return when no longer needed," and that he periodically return to us documents which have lost their currency. Thus his files will not become an archival record of CIA operations.

5. As a further precaution, [REDACTED] in a memorandum he wrote at my request on 9 June to Dennis Flinn, State's Director of Security, asked that State:

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- a. Issue Mr. Higgs a safe for the storage of documents sensitive to CIA, and
- b. Instruct Mr. Higgs to maintain an inventory of the documents and to confine knowledge of the safe's combination.

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6. I believe that these arrangements [REDACTED] has made with Flinn and that I tentatively have made with Higgs are workable and that they solve the problem as well as it can be solved. Consequently, I recommend your approval of the attached CPP memorandum.

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Chief
Psychological and Paramilitary
Operations Staff

Attachment 1

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CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2002/01/31 : CIA-RDP83-00764R000300080025-5

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn and a comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark) before routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

TELEPHONE

NO.

DATE

E-113

ILLEGIB

TO

ROOM
NO.

DATE

OFFICER'S

TELEPHONE

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PREVIOUS EDITIONS
MAY BE USED

SECRET

HS/CSG-2437